

## Houston District Success Story

## Kaduceus Holdings, Inc.



Anthony D. Newton

Anthony D. Newton Jr. is the founder and CEO of *Kaduceus Holdings Inc.*, a corporation created to provide continuing education to students and those interested in pursuing a career as a pharmacy technician. His early work experience began in high school when a Kashmere High School teacher introduced him to the medical field and helped him become a Herman Memorial patient escort. There he worked his way up to a Darkroom Technician Assistant in the MRI Department.

At the end of his senior year in high school, Anthony wanted to continue a career in the medical field. He pursued his certification as a Pharmacy Technician and obtained a position at the Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital Pharmacy. In 2001, he applied and was accepted at the National Institute of Technology as a Pharmacy Technician Instructor and later became the Director of the Pharmacy Technician Program. Shortly afterwards be accepted a position as Director of Pharmacy at the Texas School of Business. Anthony perfected the program, which was deemed the number one program in the area that had the least amount of dropouts and a phenomenal pass-fail rate. To help technicians in the medical field gain more educational advantages in the medical field; he implemented the Sterile Product (IV) Certification which became a huge success.

In June 2004, the Texas State Board of Pharmacy passed a law enforcing all Pharmacy Technicians to be certified to handle Sterile Products in a hospital setting which led Anthony to start *Kaduceus*, which was later incorporated as *Kaduceus Holdings*, *Inc*. Anthony wanted to expand his teachings and became certified to teach the Sterile Products Course through the University of Houston.

Anthony gives great credit to Irwin Miller of SCORE, the Service Corps of Retired Executives for invaluable assistance with his company. SCORE, a resource partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), is a nonprofit association dedicated to helping small businesses succeed. Volunteer counselors, whose collective experience spans the full range of American enterprise, share their experiences with small business owners. Irwin Miller whose former experience in the field of pharmacy was the perfect counselor match for Anthony. "Mr. Miller's insight was profound. He did a phenomenal job in helping us determine our next steps," said Anthony. Irwin Miller continues to be a key mentor for Anthony & Kaduceus.

In 2006, Anthony acquired his first contract with the Houston Independent School District. He wanted to help the younger generation by providing education and training to prepare them for post high school graduation. He developed a program for high school seniors interested in becoming certified pharmacy technicians to get hands-on training and

experience through his PharmTech program, which is now in 42 school districts statewide. He bridged an affiliation with CVS Pharmacy allowing students to complete their externship in a local CVS Pharmacy with a job possibility upon completion. Anthony's PharmTech program was also accepted as an Education Certification Program by the Alliance Group, a multi cultural community service that benefits the education of refugees, immigrants, and low-income residents of Harris County.

At age 28, Anthony is the youngest and only entrepreneur in the medical field to have a Pharmacy Technician program that is used in local and state high school classrooms. He has plans to expand on a national level and add new programs to his very successful pharmacy tech program. Anthony was recently named the SBA Houston District 2008 Young Entrepreneur of the Year and the SBA Region VI 2008 Young Entrepreneur. SBA Region VI is made up of the states of Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana.

For more information about SCORE and SBA, visit www.score.org and www.sba.gov.

Success Story written by Valerie Nguyen, Public Information Officer

## Is your business successful? Would you like to be featured on our local webpage?

In our efforts to recognize the achievements of small businesses, the Houston District Office features success stories on our website. The small business success stories are selected by the district office, and represent small businesses that have received services from SBA and/or our Resource Partners.

All success stories are entered into our Washington database. Some are featured in our SBA Houston e-Newsletters and are submitted to local newspapers, associations, chambers of commerce, and community newsletters for publication.

To qualify for consideration a small business must meet the following criteria:

- 1. Receive assistance from SBA or a Resource Partners, i.e., SCORE and Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs)
- 2. Must be in business minimum of three years
- 3. Owner must sign Consent Form

If you would like our district office to consider your business for a small business success story, please contact our Public Information Officer at 713-773-6516 or email at <a href="Mailto:Valerie.nguyen@sba.gov">Valerie.nguyen@sba.gov</a>. Please note some small businesses may also be included in public officials' speeches.